IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a task using a plurality of applications in a networked computer environment, the method comprising:

sending instructions for performing the task from a first computer system to ~~one or more~~ a plurality of remote computer systems, wherein the task comprises a plurality of subtasks, wherein the instructions for performing the task comprise instructions for performing ~~one or more~~ a respective one of the subtasks ~~with each of a~~ by executing a respective one of the plurality of applications on a respective one of each of the plurality of remote computer systems, ~~and~~ wherein the instructions for performing the task comprise a plurality of messages in a portable format, and wherein the portable format comprises a cross-platform format readable by the first computer system and the plurality of remote computer systems;

translating the instructions for performing the task from the portable format to an executable format at the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems, ~~thereby~~ wherein the translating comprises generating executable instructions for performing the plurality of subtasks; and

executing the executable instructions to perform the subtasks ~~comprising the task~~, wherein executing the executable instructions comprises invoking the respective one of the plurality of applications on the respective one of each of the plurality of remote computer systems.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the instructions are sent to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems via a distributed computing infrastructure.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1,

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wherein the instructions are translated from the portable format to the executable form by a distributed computing infrastructure.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,
wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems using unicast peer-to-peer messaging.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,
wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems using multicast peer-to-peer messaging.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1,
wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems using broadcast peer-to-peer messaging.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1,
wherein the portable format comprises XML.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer accessible memory medium comprising program instructions for performing a task using a plurality of applications in a networked computer environment, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement:
sending instructions for performing the task from a first computer system to ~~one or more~~ a plurality of remote computer systems, wherein the task comprises a plurality of subtasks, wherein the instructions for performing the task comprise instructions for performing ~~one or more~~ a respective one of the subtasks ~~with each of a~~ by executing a respective one of the plurality of applications on a respective one of each of the plurality of remote computer systems, ~~and~~ wherein the instructions for performing the task comprise a plurality of messages in a portable format, and wherein the portable format comprises a cross-platform format readable by the first computer system and the plurality of remote computer systems;

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translating the instructions for performing the task from the portable format to an executable format at the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems, ~~thereby~~ wherein the translating comprises generating executable instructions for performing the plurality of subtasks; and

executing the executable instructions to perform the subtasks ~~comprising the task,~~ wherein executing the executable instructions comprises invoking the respective one of the plurality of applications on the respective one of each of the plurality of remote computer systems.

9. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible memory medium of claim 8,

wherein the instructions are sent to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems via a distributed computing infrastructure.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible memory medium of claim 8,

wherein the instructions are translated from the portable format to the executable form by a distributed computing infrastructure.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible memory medium of claim 8,

wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems using unicast peer-to-peer messaging.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible memory medium of claim 8,

wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems using multicast peer-to-peer messaging.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer accessible memory medium of claim 8,

wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems using broadcast peer-to-peer messaging.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer accessible memory medium of claim 8,

wherein the portable format comprises XML.

15.   (Currently Amended) A system for performing a task using a plurality of applications in a networked computer environment, the system comprising:

a first computer system comprising a first CPU and a first memory; and

~~one or more~~ a plurality of remote computer systems comprising ~~one or more~~ a plurality of respective remote CPUs and ~~one or more~~ a plurality of respective remote memories;

wherein the first computer system ~~and the one or more remote computer systems are~~ is communicatively coupled via a network to each of the remote computer systems;

wherein the first memory stores program instructions which are executable by the first CPU to:

send instructions for performing the task from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems, wherein the task comprises a plurality of subtasks, wherein the instructions for performing the task comprise instructions for performing ~~one or more~~ a respective one of the subtasks ~~with each of a~~ by executing a respective one of the plurality of applications on a respective one of each of the plurality of remote computer systems, ~~and~~ wherein the instructions for performing the task comprise a plurality of messages in a portable format, and wherein the portable format comprises a cross-platform format readable by the first computer system and the plurality of remote computer systems;

wherein the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote memories store program instructions which are executable by the ~~one or more~~ plurality of respective remote CPUs to:

translate the instructions for performing the task from the portable format to an executable format at the ~~one or more~~ plurality of remote computer systems, ~~thereby~~ wherein the translating comprises generating executable instructions for performing the plurality of subtasks; and

execute the executable instructions to perform the subtasks ~~comprising the task,~~ wherein executing the executable instructions comprises invoking the respective one of the plurality of applications on the respective one of each of the plurality of remote computer systems.

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16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15,

    wherein the instructions are sent to the ~~one or more~~ <u>plurality of</u> remote computer systems via a distributed computing infrastructure.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15,

    wherein the instructions are translated from the portable format to the executable form by a distributed computing infrastructure.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15,

    wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ <u>plurality of</u> remote computer systems using unicast peer-to-peer messaging.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15,

    wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ <u>plurality of</u> remote computer systems using multicast peer-to-peer messaging.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15,

    wherein the messages are sent from the first computer system to the ~~one or more~~ <u>plurality of</u> remote computer systems using broadcast peer-to-peer messaging.

21. (Original) The system of claim 15,

    wherein the portable format comprises XML.